

[DOH, April 28, 1998]

**IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF CHAPTER VI —
"SCHOOL SANITATION AND HEALTH SERVICES" OF THE CODE
ON SANITATION OF THE PHILIPPINES (P.D. 856)**

To carry out the provisions of Chapter VI — "School Sanitation and Health Services" of the Code on Sanitation of the Philippines (P.D. 856) these rules and regulations are hereby formulated for implementation and strict compliance of all concerned.

SECTION 1. SCOPE — These implementing rules and regulations shall apply to all public and private schools, sectarian and non-sectarian schools, seminaries or theological schools, review centers, graduate schools, special schools and schools for person with disabilities, foreign schools, technical/vocational schools, special training or trade schools, training centers, day care or child care centers, nursery and kindergarten schools and children's institution. Exemptions shall include Sunday schools, dancing and music schools, physical fitness and slimmer schools, massage schools, embalming schools, martial arts and yoga schools, swimming schools and scuba-diving schools, other schools and similar institutions and facilities that are covered within the scope of the other chapters of the Code on Sanitation of the Philippines.

SECTION 2. DEFINITION OF TERMS —

2.1 CHILDREN'S INSTITUTION — a place, other than a boarding home, orphanage or children's hospital where, for compensation or otherwise, children under twelve (12) years of age are received for day/night care and given tutorship.

2.2 DEPARTMENT — the Department of Health.

2.3 DAY CARE CENTER — a school taking care of children three (3) to five (5) years old when their parents/guardians are out.

2.4 EGRESS — an arrangement of facilities to assure a safe means of exit from the building.

2.5 EMOTIONAL ENVIRONMENT — factors which affect the emotional health of students and members of the faculty, non-teaching personnel and other support staff.

2.6 ESTABLISHMENT — a collective term construed to include all the schools mentioned within the scope of these rules and regulations.

2.7 FOREIGN SCHOOL — as distinguished from a Philippine school, is one that is duly established and authorized in accordance with existing Philippine laws to operate certain education programs which are primarily and principally adhering to

either universally accepted and recognized educational policies and standards or the unique differentially prescribed system of education of a particular country other than the Philippines.

2.8 FORMAL EDUCATION — refers to the hierarchically structured and chronologically graded learning experience organized and provided by the formal school system and for which certification is required in order for the learner to progress through the grades or move to higher levels. Formal education corresponds to the levels of the elementary, secondary, and tertiary education.

2.9 HEALTH CARE FACILITY — includes hospitals, health centers, clinics, laboratories, medical research institutions and other similar establishments that provide preventive, promotive, curative and rehabilitative health services.

2.10 HEALTH CERTIFICATE — a certification in writing using the prescribed form issued by the city or municipal health officer to a person after passing the required physical and medical examinations and immunizations.

2.11 INFESTATION — the presence within or around the establishment of any insect, rodents or other pests.

2.12 KINDERGARTEN SCHOOL — a school for children four (4) to five (5) years old.

2.13 LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY — an official or employee responsible for the application of a prescribed health measure in a local political subdivision. For the provincial level, the local health authority is the governor and for a city or municipality the local health authority is the mayor.

2.14 LOCAL HEALTH OFFICER — the provincial, city or municipal health officer.

2.15 NON-FORMAL EDUCATION — refers to any organized school-based educational activity undertaken by the Department of Education, Culture and Sports or by other agencies, including private schools, and aimed at attaining specific learning objectives for a particular clientele, especially the illiterate, out-of-school youth, and adults who cannot avail of formal education, distinct from and outside of the regular offerings of the formal school system.

2.16 NURSERY SCHOOL — a school for children three (3) to four (4) years old.

2.17 PATHOLOGICAL WASTE — includes tissues, organs, or body parts from surgical operations, biopsies and autopsies, remains, aborted fetuses and animal carcasses, and blood and body fluids.

2.18 PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT — the school plants, grounds, and facilities.

2.19 PRE-SCHOOL SERVICE — any service which during all or part of the day regularly gives care to children who are below five (5) years old, whether or not the care is given for compensation, and whether the service is known as child minding center, child care center, day nursery, day care center, nursery school, kindergarten, play school or by any other name.

2.20 PRIVATE SCHOOL — a privately owned and managed institution for teaching

and learning authorized by the Department of Education, Culture and Sports or by the Commission on Higher Education to operate certain educational programs in accordance with law and the prescribed policies and rules of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports or the Commission on Higher Education.

2.21 PUPIL — a child who attends classes in any grade of the elementary education level, including pre-school, under the supervision and tutelage of a teacher.

2.22 PUBLIC SCHOOL — an educational institution which is established by or pursuant to law, supported and maintained principally through public funds, and administered by the local or national government, or an agency or subsidiary of the latter.

2.23 REFUSE OR SOLID WASTE — all organic and inorganic non-liquid and non-gaseous portions of the total waste mass. It consists of all putrescible and non-putrescible solid materials except for body waste.

2.24 REGIONAL DIRECTOR — an official who heads a regional health office of the Department of Health.

2.25 SAFETY — the condition of being free from danger and hazard which may cause accident or disease.

2.26 SANITARY ENGINEER — a person duly registered with the Board of Examiners for Sanitary Engineers (Republic Act 1364) and who heads or works with the sanitation division/section/unit of the provincial/city/municipal health office or rural health unit or employed with the Department of Health or its regional health offices.

2.27 SANITATION INSPECTOR — a government official or personnel employed by the national, provincial, city or municipal government, who enforces sanitary rules, laws and regulations and implements environmental sanitation activities under the supervision of the provincial/city/municipal health officer/sanitary engineer.

2.28 SANITARY PERMIT — the certification in writing by the city or municipal health officer or in his absence by the chief or head of the sanitation division/section/unit attesting that the establishment complies with the existing requirements upon evaluation or inspection conducted in accordance with Presidential Decree Nos. 522 and 856 and local ordinances.

2.29 SECRETARY — the Secretary of Health.

2.30 SECTARIAN SCHOOL — a school run or managed by a particular religious organization.

2.31 SCHOOL — a public or private educational institution undertaking educational operations with an organized group of pupils or students pursuing defined studies at defined levels, receiving instructions from teachers, usually located in a building or group of buildings in a particular site specifically intended for educational purposes.

2.32 SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR — a person, usually the owner, who manages the activities of a particular school.

2.33 SCHOOL FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES — school for persons who are suffering from restriction or lack of ability to perform an activity in the manner or within the range considered normal for a human being as a result of a mental, physical or sensory impairment.

2.34 SPECIAL SCHOOL — a school which utilizes cadavers, plants, animals, bacterial or viral cultures and radioactive materials for studies and research.

2.35 STUDENT — any person who is enrolled and engaged in formal education studies and attends classes at the secondary or higher education level.

2.36 TECHNICAL/VOCATIONAL SCHOOL — any school undertaking a non-degree program at the post-secondary education in preparation for a particular occupation.

2.37 THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL — a school established to undertake educational activities for priesthood or religious ministry.

2.38 TRADE SCHOOL — a school which incorporates technical/vocational activities such as welding, refrigeration and air-conditioning, electronics, carpentry, electrical and other related activities into their curricula.

2.39 VERMIN — a group of insects such as flies, mosquitoes, cockroaches, lice, bedbugs, mites, ticks, fleas or small animals such as mice and rats which are vectors of diseases.

2.40 VERMIN ABATEMENT PROGRAM — a series of preventive and control procedures and activities for vermin control.

SECTION 3. SANITARY PERMIT —

3.1 No person or entity shall operate an establishment mentioned in Section 1 without a sanitary permit issued by the local health officer.

3.2 Any extension, additional construction or alteration of the establishment shall require a new sanitary permit before it could be operated.

3.3 Application or Renewal of Sanitary Permit

3.3.1 The application or renewal of sanitary permit shall be filed with the city/municipal health office having jurisdiction over the establishment.

3.3.2 Sanitary permit shall be issued only upon compliance to at least a satisfactory rating utilizing the sanitary inspection of public places establishment form (EHS Form No. 103-B).

3.4 *Fees.* Fees shall be paid upon application, renewal and noting of sanitary permit. The amount of fees shall be set through local ordinance.

3.5 *Noting of Permi.* Within 14 working days after any change in the ownership of the establishment, the new owner shall apply to the city/municipal health office to have such change noted in the records and secure a certificate and shall pay the corresponding fee in respect of such noting.

3.6 *Validity.* The sanitary permit shall be valid on the day of issuance until the last day of December of the same year, and shall be renewed at the beginning of every year thereafter. Upon the recommendation of the local health officer to the local health authority, the sanitary permit shall be suspended or revoked by the local health authority for violation of any sanitary rules and regulations.

3.7 *Posting of Permit.* The sanitary permit shall be posted in a conspicuous part of the establishment for public information and shall be available for inspection by health and other regulatory personnel.

3.8 *Record of Sanitary Permit*

3.8.1 Every city/municipality shall keep a record of all establishments which have been issued sanitary permits and renewal thereof.

3.8.2 The record shall in every case show the following:

- a. The name and address of the holder of the sanitary permit who in every case shall be the actual operator of the establishment;
- b. The location of the establishment;
- c. The nature/kind of business for which the permit has been issued;
- d. The date when the first permit was issued and the dates of every renewal thereof;
- e. Every change of ownership of the establishment since the first permit was issued;
- f. Sanitary conditions under which the permit was issued or any renewal thereof granted; and
- g. The revocation of the sanitary permit.

3.8.3 The record shall be available at all reasonable times for inspection by any authorized officer of the Department of Health or local government unit.

SECTION 4. SITE REQUIREMENTS — For the promotion of the physical and emotional environment in schools, the following shall be the minimum site requirements and standards:

4.1 *School Site Clearance*

4.1.1 A site clearance shall be secured from the regional health office which has jurisdiction over the area before any construction is made.